

River Road Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan

Project Team Meeting Minutes

July 15, 2009

In Attendance:

Kacy White, City of Glenview
Aida Copic, Planning and Design Services
Jon Henney, GSP

Dave French, River Fields
Felicia Harper, GSP
Meme Runyon, River Fields (end of meeting)

Distributed: Project Team meeting agenda; July 1, 2009 Project Team meeting minutes; revised On-Line Survey Questions draft; Summary of public comments to date.

The meeting began with the approval of the minutes from June 3, 2009 and June 17, 2009. Kacy White commented on the 6/06/09 minutes stating that Richard Breen wanted to know the status of the maps that Dirk was going to check on for copies for the City of Glenview. Jon Henney said that Sabak, Wilson and Lingo should produce those plans for the City of Glenview. Pat Dominick with Sabak has electronic copies of the plans. Kacy White also commented on the 6/17/09 minutes stating that in the attendance section beside her name that it should read City of Glenview. Felicia H. stated that changes will be made to the minutes. There were no other revisions and the minutes from June 3, 2009 and June 17, 2009 were approved with revisions.

Jon H. stated that the PowerPoint for the July 13th public meeting was brief but will be put up on the website as soon as possible. The summary of the public comments were distributed to the group from the last two public meetings. A scanned copy of the original comments was sent to the Project Team by email prior to today's meeting.

Jon H. updated the project team on the Stakeholder Interviews. There have been three interviews so far, The Browns, Captain Quarters Center to Wolf Pen Branch retail group and the River Road Recreation group. A summary has been prepared and distribute to the project team. GSP is still planning the other stakeholder interviews previously listed as well as Rory McMahan. It was determined that the Environmental, Historic and Cultural group will be called individually for the stakeholder interview.

Jon H. acknowledged that the Neighborhood stakeholders were originally two sub-groups (Beach Communities and smaller neighborhoods) but he thought it would be a good idea to have smaller group meetings that could be held in neighbor's houses. Jon H. asked how the project team would like to proceed with this idea. This idea would make smaller groups to get a more personal reaction.

Jon H. shared that the data that Ted Grossardt prepared is uploaded on the Project Team website for review. The project team needs to decide on what to do with this data. Jon H. asked the project team to review the documents on the website and let him know if there are any questions or comments regarding the data and report. Jon stated that once he has heard from the project team regarding the report it will be posted on the public website.

The Public Survey was discussed with the project team. Kacy suggested that questions 21 through 25 needed examples with the statements for the general public to understand.

Jon H. stated that questions 16-20 were new questions in the study. Jon H. said that we will post the survey on Survey Monkey as soon as possible so the public can start responding.

Jon H. wanted to discuss the July 13th public meeting with the project team. Dave F. stated that it seems that everyone at the meeting was focused on the bicycle trail. He wants to know how we focus the public off this topic when it is not the primary focus of the Corridor Improvement Plan. Jon H. stated the importance of the Project team not focusing on this issue until later in the process so the public can see the broader picture of the study. Dave F. stated that he noticed that a lot of bicyclists were not present at the public meeting but that the majority of the comments from the public were pro-bike. Jon H. said that he came away from the public meeting thinking that the public were more acceptable to the plan and wanted to know how it can be done. He believes this is a huge turnaround from the 1st public meeting. Aida C. stated that she felt the public had a more positive attitude on "how can we do it." Jon H. thinks that an educational component would be a huge benefit to the community. The project team needs to discuss why bike facilities are just a small part of the larger community and why having facilities are important to the corridor and what the benefits would be.

Dave F. said that the location, Gingerwoods worked well for the public meetings because of location, parking and space. Jon H. acknowledged that the City of Glenview requested another location at the other side of the corridor but it was short notice to secure another location. Kacy W. stated that the City of Glenview wanted it on River Road but knew it was short notice and stated that with the closed bridge it would be hard for people to get to. Jon H. said that we might be able to have a CAG meeting at the Water Tower to accommodate the members. Jon H. said that GSP will look into the Lebanese/American Club for the third public meeting. Dave F. stated that the River Road Country Club has good space and it is vacant. Jon H. said that the Water Company owns the building and that Parks might be able to help secure that space.

Jon H. wanted to discuss the August 10th CAG meeting. He stated that Jones and Jones will be in town for this meeting and feels that a working-day with the consultant team will be held. This work session will be to discuss some alternative recommendations. Jon H. wanted to know if the project team was interested in having face time with the consultant team. Aida C said that opportunity would be great.

The CAG meeting will be held at Chick Inn from 7-8:30 PM. Jon H. said that he will have an agenda of the meeting out by next weekend and he will email the agenda to the project team. The project team will discuss the agenda on August 5th.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Meme Runyon entered the meeting at this time and Jon H. presented her with a brief overview of the meeting.

Jon H. talked about the stakeholder interviews and stated that the project team decided that the Environmental, Historic and Cultural stakeholder's interviews were going to be done by phone interview individually. Meme R. was concerned about not having a public meeting with the natural resources people is a grave error. Jon H. thought it was a hodge podge of organizations and thought it would be better to call them. Meme R. believes that if we do this that we will not get the same results as in a personal interview. There will not be the same energy and could become a big issue from the public.

Meme R. said that we need to set up a TAG meeting soon. Jon H. believes that it is scheduled for early September and thinks that there are an overlap on some of the TAG committee and the environmental stakeholders. This could solve the problem. Meme R. stated that during the first public meeting it was shown during the survey part that over 73% of the public said that environmental issues are an important issue to them so we need to focus on the positive.

Meme R. believes that during public meetings that is it important that the moderator facilitate the public meeting in a way that they have control over the meeting and can bring the discussion back to the planning goals of the plan. It is important to have "what if" scenarios to the public and get the negative off of the bike issue. Meme stated that Harbour Town was a motivator for the Master Plan because it was a hot topic when it was approved. Many people in the corridor do not want to see a five or six story building along the river.

Meme R. asked Jon H. what the consultants were doing to analyze traffic deaths and accidents. Meme R. said that there were several places along the corridor that death has occurred a several times over the years. Jon H. stated that according to our data there was not a large percentage anywhere along the corridor that deaths have occurred. Felicia H. stated that the data only showed accident data within the last few years. Meme R. said that she believes that Public Works makes assumptions on what is needed along the corridor. Meme R. knows that the entrance at Glenview and Rockledge that there has been at least 5 fatalities in her memory. She also said that the Knights of Columbus is a hazard because of people crossing the road to the other side. She said that we need to deal with the issues at hand.

Meme R. requested that the consultants look at data that dates further back then just the last three years. She knows that there are other traffic calming devices that could be beneficial instead of strengthen the road.

The meeting was than adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Felicia Harper